



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SERVICE TRAINING COMMAND
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NSTCINST 1550.1A

N7

28 May 09

NSTC INSTRUCTION 1550.1A

From: Commander, Naval Service Training Command

Subj: LANGUAGE SKILLS, REGIONAL EXPERTISE AND CULTURAL
AWARENESS ACADEMIC MAJOR POLICY FOR NAVAL RESERVE
OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS NAVY OPTION MIDSHIPMEN

Ref: (a) OPNAV N1 Memo 1530 SER N1/127175 of 19 Oct 07
(b) NSTCINST 1533.3
(c) SECDEF Memo of 13 Aug 07
(d) USD P&R Memo of 5 Feb 09
(e) A Cooperative Strategy for 21st Century Seapower of
Oct 07
(f) U.S. Navy Language Skills, Regional Expertise, and
Cultural Awareness Strategy of Jan 08
(g) Title 10, United States Code, Chapter 103 (Section
2102, et seq.)
(h) NSTCINST 1533.2
(i) ASN(M&RA) Memo of 4 Aug 05

1. Purpose. To prescribe a Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Language Skills, Regional Expertise and Cultural Awareness (LREC) academic major policy for select midshipmen and ensure as commissioned officers, they are instructed in LREC attributes desired by the Navy. Per reference (a), technical academic major production for Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen shall remain the primary NROTC objective. NSTC will incorporate its NROTC LREC policy into reference (b), and NSTC shall assign LREC program students as Tier 3 academic majors.

2. Cancellation. NSTCINST 1550.1.

3. Background. Per reference (c), the Secretary of Defense requested all military branches further encourage ROTC students to study languages listed in reference (d) or versions applicable at the time. References (e) and (f) emphasize the necessity to foster cultural, regional, and linguistic expertise within the Navy.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

a. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education (DCNO MPTE) (N1) provides production guidance, establishes requirements for NROTC commissioned officers, and provides necessary resources.

b. Commander, Naval Education and Training Command (NETC) supports NROTC production requirements through establishing policy and oversight of execution.

c. Commander, Naval Service Training Command (NSTC) executes and achieves the requirement by implementing and sustaining an NROTC LREC program. NSTC updates strategic foreign language and cultural/regional listings; monitors program progress; directs student selection and placement; reviews/approves academic major and minor changes; directs and manages program attrition and sideloads; enforces midshipmen contract agreements to include recoupment and service obligations; articulates LREC policy and procedures to NROTC units; and monitors LREC midshipmen trends and overall applicant metrics. The NSTC Candidate Guidance Office publicizes the LREC program to NROTC applicants and assists applicants with selecting LREC academic programs.

d. NROTC units maintain a current NSTC listing of approved LREC academic majors and minors; updates NSTC of any academic major curricula changes; counsels and mentors midshipmen about LREC applicable academic major and minor requirements and policies; evaluates and recommends LREC academic major and minor change requests; maintains accurate records regarding student academic majors; and establishes and maintains student support programs.

5. Requirements

a. NSTC, in coordination with OPNAV N13F, will conduct an annual review of academic majors and LREC assignments no later than May of each year. NSTC N7 will solicit change proposals to LREC academic majors and minors from DCNO (MPTE) staff and will submit to CNSTC for approval no later than July 1 each year and implementation beginning the next fall term.

b. NSTC Officer Development (OD) will annually review NROTC academic institution course catalogs to ensure academic

requirements support the NROTC LREC program. LREC academic major and minor list modifications and NROTC institution curriculum modifications shall not cause midshipmen who previously enrolled in an LREC academic major and minor to forfeit their NROTC scholarship.

c. Specific requirements

(1) Total production requirements. The goal of the LREC program is to produce a minimum of 20 commissioned officers annually.

(2) Categorical production requirements. The NROTC LREC program does not have a prescribed goal for the allocation of regions, cultures, or languages; however, NSTC will promote variance in scholarship offers to encompass the regions, cultures, and languages of strategic interest to the Navy.

(3) LREC program requirements. NROTC LREC program applicants shall major in Navy-approved regions, cultures and/or languages. Midshipmen who major in a region/culture prescribed by the Navy must minor in a foreign language associated with the selected region/culture. Similarly, midshipmen who major in a foreign language prescribed by the Navy must minor in a region/culture associated with the selected language.

(4) LREC program completion. Completion of the NROTC LREC program is based on fulfilling the college's/university's academic major and minor requirements for the respective LREC program. Attainment of a specific level of language proficiency is not required by the NROTC LREC program. NSTC will not link Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) scores to the LREC program degree requirements.

6. NROTC LREC Regional/Cultural Areas and Foreign Languages

a. NSTC will direct midshipmen to focus on one of the regional and cultural areas listed below when selecting an LREC academic major or minor.

(1) Regional/Cultural Areas:

(a) Africa

(b) Central Asia

- (c) East Asia/China
- (d) Middle/Central/Latin America
- (e) Middle East
- (f) South Asia
- (g) Southeast Asia
- (h) Southwest Asia
- (i) Russia/Eastern Europe

b. NSTC will direct midshipmen to major or minor in one of the languages listed below.

(1) Foreign Languages:

Arabic	Pashto
Cambodian	Persian
Central Asian Languages	Portuguese
Chinese	Russian
Dari	Serbo-Croatian
Farsi	Somali
French	Spanish
Hebrew	Swahili
Hindi	Tagalog
Indonesian	Thai
Japanese	Turkish
Kurdish	Urdu
Malay	Vietnamese

7. Applicability

a. NROTC Program

(1) Four-Year Scholarship Program. Per reference (b), NSTC shall assign 85% of the incoming NROTC Navy Option Scholarship freshmen as technical academic majors and approximately 15% as non-technical academic majors. The NROTC LREC program will include no fewer than 30 incoming Navy Option Scholarship freshman from the 15% non-technical academic majors.

(2) College (Non-Scholarship) Program. NSTC shall also target NROTC Navy Option College Program midshipmen majoring and minoring in Navy approved regions, cultures, and languages.

b. STA-21 Program. Certain NROTC STA-21 midshipmen may be eligible for the NROTC LREC program if their selected program option does not require a specific academic major.

8. Scholarship Recruiting and Application

a. NSTC N4/6 will ensure NROTC Program websites and publications include statements promoting the LREC program and display program requirements for participation. Communiqués will indicate that:

(1) NSTC OD will activate the scholarship only when the student satisfactorily develops a degree plan with the host NROTC unit and university and upon enrollment in the assigned academic major and minor. NROTC units will document the approved degree plan in the automated record (Officer Personnel Management Information System (OPMIS)) and the midshipman student file, and include in the scholarship service agreement.

(2) The NROTC application will list the applicant as a Tier 3 academic major and specify the applicant's selected regional/cultural program of study and language of interest.

b. The web-based NROTC four-year national scholarship application will require applicants to identify their desired academic major and minor. NSTC OD will use this fundamental information in selection and placement of those applying to academic majors and minors in selected LREC programs.

c. NSTC will coordinate with staff of the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command and Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruiting Command to provide information and guidance related to this policy.

9. Scholarship Selection. To facilitate achieving the annual requirement of commissioning 20 NROTC LREC program officers:

a. NSTC OD shall ensure the NSTC draft of the precept and Navy guidance for the NROTC Continuous National Selection Board includes direction stating no fewer than 30 freshmen Navy Option Scholarships are assigned to LREC academic majors to achieve

out-year production requirements. The NSTC precept will heavily weigh the selection of LREC academic majors as a selection factor for Tier 3 majors by allotting those candidates more points in the selection algorithm.

b. NSTC will ensure the selection board choices for incoming Navy Option Scholarship freshmen reach a minimum of 30 students enrolled in LREC academic majors. The board report shall include specific LREC academic majors and minors for each selected scholarship candidate and alternate.

c. Selection notifications shall include LREC academic major and minor assignments and an explanation of academic majors and minors available within the LREC program. Notification shall state that scholarship activation is contingent upon selectee's enrollment in the assigned academic major and minor.

10. Class Progression

a. A minimum freshman enrollment of 30 Navy Option midshipmen is set to achieve the annual requirement of 20 LREC commissioned officers.

b. NSTC OD shall award side-load scholarships with preference given to LREC majors and minors to facilitate achieving the minimum annual requirement of 20 LREC commissioned officers.

11. Academic Major/Minor Transfer Requests. If a midshipman desires to change an academic major from an LREC major to either a technical major (Tier 1 or 2) or other non-technical major (Tier 3), or a non-LREC major desires to change an academic major from a Tier 1 or 2 academic major or non-LREC major to a LREC major during the freshman, sophomore or junior year (program policy defines these college years as a midshipman's first through third years of Naval Science), the following applies:

a. For LREC Tier 3 to Tier 1 or 2 transfer requests and Non-LREC Tier 3 to LREC Tier 3 transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes, the most recent approved list will apply to academic major transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds terms (semester or quarter as appropriate) beyond four years by transferring academic majors, the midshipman will incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g).

(3) The Professor of Naval Science (PNS) may approve a transfer request if that request is in the best interest of the Navy. Tier 1 and 2 academic majors are more desirable than LREC academic majors so the PNS should evaluate the rationale for change carefully.

(4) Process:

(a) The midshipman submits an academic major change request to the PNS.

(b) The midshipmen must submit change requests to the PNS a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(c) The PNS reviews submission and either approves or disapproves the request and notifies NSTC OD of the final decision.

b. For LREC Tier 3 to non-LREC Tier 3 transfer requests and Tier 1 or 2 to LREC Tier 3 transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes, the most recent approved list will apply to academic major transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds terms beyond four years by transferring academic majors, the midshipman will incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g).

(3) NSTC OD will convene a panel from a slate approved by CNSTC, as required, to review midshipmen requests to transfer to Tier 3 academic majors. Panels will consist of no fewer than three officers or federal civilians and will include representation from three of the following NSTC departments: Nuclear Programs, Professional Development, Selection and Placement, Unit Operations, and Student Operations. NSTC Professional Development will chair the panel. If there are no

available Tier 3 quotas, the panel will review the midshipman's request and consider for transfer to the College Program, Nurse Corps Program, or Marine Corps Program.

(4) Process:

(a) The midshipman submits an academic major change request package for initial evaluation by the NROTC unit staff and final review by an academic major change panel. Midshipman package must include reasons for the desired change, copies of transcripts, and existing and proposed degree plans.

(b) The midshipman must submit change requests to the PNS a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(c) NROTC unit staff reviews change request package and PNS forwards with endorsement to the academic major change panel for evaluation. Endorsement must include comments related to the reasons for the academic major change and applicant performance (e.g., character, academic performance and course load, aptitude, etc.).

(d) NSTC OD shall forward the panel results to CNSTC or a designee for review. Once approved/disapproved, CNSTC or a designee will return the results to the PNS for appropriate action.

c. For LREC Tier 3 academic minor transfer requests

(1) If the LREC or academic major list changes, the most recent approved list will apply to academic minor transfers.

(2) If a midshipman adds terms beyond four years by transferring minors, the midshipman will incur the additional costs or gain additional financial assistance per reference (g).

(3) A transfer of academic minor request may be approved by the PNS if the new academic minor program of study remains in compliance with the educational institution's academic major degree requirements and the selected minor aligns with the region or language selected as an academic major.

(4) If a midshipman's academic minor request is not in compliance with the educational institution's academic major degree requirements and does not align with the region or language selected as an academic major, NSTC OD will convene a panel from a slate approved by CNSTC, as required, to review requests to transfer. Panels will consist of no fewer than three officers or federal civilians and will include representation from three of the following NSTC departments: Nuclear Programs, Professional Development, Selection and Placement, Unit Operations, and Student Operations. NSTC Professional Development will chair the panel. If a resolution for an appropriate academic minor is not agreed upon, the panel will review the midshipman's request and consider for transfer to the College Program, Nurse Corps Program, or Marine Corps Program.

(5) Process:

(a) Midshipman submits academic minor change request package for evaluation by the PNS and possible review by an academic minor change panel. Midshipman package must include reasons for the desired change, copies of transcripts, and existing and proposed degree plans.

(b) The midshipman must submit change requests to the PNS a minimum of one term in advance of the desired change to facilitate its approval before the midshipman executes a new degree plan.

(c) The NROTC unit staff reviews change request package. If the PNS approves the request, the PNS shall notify NSTC OD of the minor change. If the PNS disapproves the request because the academic minor change request does not comply with the educational institution's academic major degree requirements or the minor does not align with the midshipman's region or language selected as an academic major, the PNS forwards with endorsement to NSTC OD for review by the academic minor change panel. Endorsement must include comments related to the reasons for the academic minor change and applicant performance (e.g., character, academic performance and course load, aptitude, etc.).

(d) NSTC OD shall forward the panel results to CNSTC or a designee for review. Once approved/disapproved, CNSTC or a designee will return the results to the PNS for appropriate action.

d. For failure to enroll in specified courses

(1) If a midshipman fails to enroll in courses appropriate to the LREC academic major to which assigned, NSTC will consider the midshipman not in compliance with program requirements and the NROTC unit will take appropriate, immediate action per chapter 7 of reference (h).

(2) NROTC units shall offer three options to freshmen NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen who depart their respective LREC major and minor and are not placed into another academic major tier: College Program option, transfer to the Marine Corps or Nurse Corps option, or NROTC Program disenrollment.

(3) NROTC units shall offer the College Program option as a first choice to NROTC Navy Option Scholarship midshipmen who have started their sophomore year, signed the NROTC Scholarship Service Agreement, but then depart their respective LREC program and academic major tier and do not follow the required process for placement into another academic major tier. Transfer to the Marine Corps and Nurse Corps may also be considered. If the midshipman declines the College Program option and is not approved for transfer to the Marine Corps or Nurse Corps programs, the NROTC unit will recommend the midshipman for disenrollment, and the midshipman will either incur an obligation for active service or reimburse the United States for educational costs expended on the student's behalf, unless waived by the Secretary of the Navy as outlined in reference (i).


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Distribution: (NSTCINST 5216.1B)
List 3 & 4